

## MEMORANDUM

To: The Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers

From: Porter Wheeler, Chair, CCV Traffic Committee

Date: June 10, 2012

Subject: Speed Limits on Village Street

The Traffic Committee (TC) received a request last year from the Board that we evaluate whether the 25 MPH speed limit in the Village is excessive and should be reduced to 20 MPH. The TC has only limited data on vehicle speeds on our local streets within CCV. The data currently on hand from a study conducted by the CCV Police in 2011 on East Melrose and Nevada Streets relating to the proposed installation of a stop sign indicate that the average speed was 17 MPH, and that virtually no vehicles exceeded the 25 MPH standard. These data did not indicate a speeding problem on those local streets studied.

However, limited data on only two streets are not adequate to support a conclusion about the general speed and density of traffic in the Village. If the Board wishes the Committee to further consider this request, then additional speed surveys would need to be taken on a sample of streets within the Village. An expanded speed survey should include both through streets as well as those that would be expected to carry local traffic only. The results of such a study would then provide data for further TC deliberation on this request regarding reduced speed limits. Other issues would also have to be examined including the implications of a lower limit for enforcement efforts and street safety.